

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A lens barrel mechanism comprising:

a first optical unit;

a second optical unit; and

a bellows-shaped unit for performing light blocking and dust proof, said bellows-shaped unit being disposed between said first optical unit and said second optical unit so as to be expanded and contracted interlocking with relative movement in an optical axial direction between said first optical unit and said second optical unit;

wherein said bellows-shaped unit is formed in a shape in conformity with the shape of inside surface of the second optical unit viewed from its front side so as to be movable relative to said second optical unit in the optical axis direction having a clearance therebetween, and one end of said bellows-shaped unit is fixed to said first optical unit, and

wherein the other end of said bellows-shaped unit is mounted to said second optical unit such that the other end the movement of said bellows-shaped unit can be moved in the optical axial direction relative to said second optical unit, and the other end of said bellows-shaped unit can be is regulated by different regulating portions of said second optical unit between cases where said bellows-shaped unit is contracted and where said bellows-shaped unit is expanded.

2. (Original) A lens barrel mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said second optical unit includes a cam pin which moves in the optical axial direction in engagement with and guided by a cam and a guide groove provided in an outer cylinder, and said different regulating portions one of which extends toward an inner circumferential side of said second optical unit, and the other of which is a portion of said cam pin protruding toward the inner circumferential side of said second optical unit.

3. (Currently Amended) A lens barrel mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said first optical unit and said second optical unit are moved relative to each other in the optical axial direction when a focal length is changed, in the event that a condition is changed from a condition under which said first optical unit and said second optical unit are both contained in an outer cylinder to a condition under which the focal length is set to a wide-angle side, said first optical unit is moved rearward in the outer cylinder from a position of said contained condition to a position whereat the other end of said bellows-shaped unit impinges said regulating portion which is a portion of a cam pin protruding toward an inner circumferential side of said second optical unit, while said second optical unit is moved forward relative to the outer cylinder, and in the event that the focal length is set to a telephoto side, said second optical unit remains at the forward moved position, while said first optical unit is moved forward to a position whereat the other end of said ~~bellows-shaped~~ bellows-shaped member impinges said regulating portion which is a portion which extends toward the inner circumferential side of said second optical unit.

4. (Original) A camera characterized by a lens barrel mechanism recited in claim 1.

5. (Currently Amended) A lens barrel mechanism characterized in that a bellows-shaped unit for performing light blocking and dust proof is disposed between a first unit and a second unit which are movable relative to each other in an optical axial direction of a lens barrel, a first portion of said bellows-shaped unit is fixed to said first unit, a second portion of said bellows-shaped unit is mounted to said second unit such that said second portion can be moved in the optical axial direction relative to said second unit, and said second portion of said bellows-shaped unit can be regulated in the optical axial direction by different portions of said second unit between cases where said bellows-shaped unit is contracted and where said bellows-shaped unit is expanded, interlocking with the relative movement in the optical axial direction of said first unit and said second unit, and wherein said second portion of said bellows-shaped unit is formed in a shape in conformity with the shape of inside surface of the second unit viewed from its front side so as to be movable relative to said second unit in the optical axis direction having a clearance therebetween.

6.(original) A lens barrel mechanism according to claim 5, wherein said second unit is an optical unit provided at a front end of said lens barrel, said regulating portion at the time of expansion is a portion of a cam pin protruding toward an inner circumferential side, and said cam pin supports and guides said optical unit in the optical axial direction.